

5.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

In preparing the proposed Backcountry/Wilderness Management Plan/EA, the NPS consulted with internal NPS staff, other agencies, and the public, through public scoping meetings, public announcements, web page development, and solicitation of comments. Initial scoping information, mailers, and updates were sent to a mailing list of 161 individuals and the following groups and organizations:

Regional, State, and Local Agencies

- Eldorado Canyon State Park
- Colorado State Forest
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- State Historic Preservation Officer
- Colorado State University
- Larimer County Parks
- Boulder Open Space
- Boulder Mountain Parks
- Town of Estes Park
- Town of Grand Lake
- Town of Estes Park Chamber and Resort Association
- Town of Grand Lake Chamber of Commerce

Federal Agencies

- National Park Service
 - Washington Office
 - Intermountain Regional Office
- US Forest Service
 - Region 2
 - Arapaho/Roosevelt National Forests
 - Boulder Ranger District
 - Canyon Lakes Ranger District
 - Sulphur Ranger District
 - Clear Creek Ranger District
 - Pawnee National Grasslands
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center
- Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute
- US Congressional Delegation

Special Use Permittees and Area Camps

- Colorado Outward Bound
- The Road Less Traveled. Inc.
- Wilderness Ranch
- Overland Travel
- Colorado Mountain School
- Cheley Camps
- YMCA of the Rockies
- Camp Chief Ouray
- Snow Mountain Ranch
- High Peaks Camp
- Covenant Heights
- Camp Timberline
- Eagle Rock School
- Estes Angler
- Estes Park Mountain Sports

Regional Environmental and Special Interest Groups

- Rocky Mountain Nature Association
- Sierra Club
- Wilderness Society
- Colorado Mountain Club
- Leave No Trace, Inc.
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts of America
- Backcountry Horsemen of Colorado
- The Access Fund
- Boulder Area Trails Coalition
- Grand Lake Partners for Trails
- Headwaters Trail Alliance
- Continental Divide Trail Alliance
- National Outdoor Leadership School
- Loveland Mountain Club
- Colorado Fourteeners Initiative
- Wilderness Watch
- Northern Colorado Trail Riders
- American Mountain Foundation
- American Alpine Club
- Kent Mountain Adventures
- American Mountain Guides
- Desert Ice Mountain Guides
- National Parks and Conservation Association
- Trails Illustrated
- Indian Peaks Working Group
- Area Outdoor Shops

A draft of the Rocky Mountain National Park Backcountry/Wilderness Management Plan will be made available for a public review period. The purpose of the public review period is to ensure that all interested publics have an ample opportunity to review the proposed management actions identified within the Plan and provide the National Park Service with their thoughts, comments, suggestions, or recommendations on these proposals.

All comments and suggestions received during the public review period will be assessed by the National Park Service for their substance. Should significant comments and suggestions be received from the public, a decision will be made as to whether the draft document should be modified or amended to reflect these changes, or whether a full environmental impact statement should be prepared.

If no significant comments are received during the public review period from the general public, special interest groups, or other State and federal agencies, the draft Backcountry/Wilderness Management Plan will be finalized after the National Park Service completes a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) document, as required by the National Environmental Protection Act of 1969. The proposed actions identified within the Backcountry/Wilderness Management Plan will then be implemented.

The public will be notified of the availability of the draft document through a variety of media vehicles including notices in local and regional newspapers and press releases sent to local TV and radio stations. Informational copies of the Plan will be available in the Boulder, Estes Park, Fort Collins, Grand Lake, Loveland, Longmont and Walden, Colorado public libraries; the Rocky Mountain National Park administrative offices in the Towns of Estes Park and Grand Lake, Colorado; and the National Park Service, Intermountain Regional Office in Lakewood, Colorado. Draft copies of the plan will be sent to anyone requesting one.